GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:978
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
HIKE IN FARE FOR HAJ PILGRIMS
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals given to hike Haj fare for pilgrims, from Rs.12,000 to Rs.16,000 following the hike in global fuel prices and the imposition of a 50 Riyal per pilgrim tax by the Saudi Arabia Government, have been rejected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that these fares have been static since 1994;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the financial impact in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): While the pilgrims are bearing the added cost of 50 Riyals on account of airport tax, the basic fare has been maintained for the pilgrims at the level of Rs.12,000/- since 1994.

(e):- The Government subsidy on account of Haj operations has increased from Rs.10.57 crores in 1994 to Rs.737 crores (Prov.) in 2008.